How do we make Shabbat Liturgy come alive?

Shabbat Shacharit
January 26, 2017
Rabbi Margot Stein
Check-in from these two weeks: What did you notice?

1. Spiritual generosity
2. Silences
3. Preparing yourself to lead prayer
What is Pesukey D’Zimra?

What is its role in the service?
What are some best practices for your community?
Shacharit: Barechu, the Sh’ma, Mi Camocha, and the Amidah

What is our task during these parts of the service?
Have you ever felt like you were on a spiritual journey?
What helps people suspend judgement and go deeper into the liturgy?
First way to map Shacharit

- Gratitude
- Song
- Knowledge
- Petition
- Descent
2nd way to map Shacharit

• Assiyah/Action — Body awareness, blessings of the morning

• Yetzirah/Formation — Emotions that spill out in words of praise. Hallelujah!

• Beriyah/Creation — Sh’ma and the journey towards wonder and transcendence

• Atzilut/Emanation — Amidah and Spiritual sustenance
Torah Service: Going to the top of the Mountain

How can you convey excitement at the opening of the Torah service?
How can you hold attention on the message of Torah?
What other challenges do you experience?
How have you solved them?
If we are deeply informed, then our creativity will become part of the chain of development of the tradition, a living tradition, that takes in new directions all the time. (Joey Weisenberg)

How do we become a link in the chain of tradition? How do we both lead and follow?
The artistry of the Ba’al Tefilah: Leading, Listening, Responding, Creating

(Joey Weisenberg)
1. Intentional atmosphere
2. aesthetic contrasts and balance
3. Pacing and dynamics
4. Intensity and complexity
5. Building participation
6. Starting and ending melodies clearly
7. Cuing responses
8. Focus and Preparedness

choosing melodies, setting the mood, picking a key, building momentum, and getting out of the way!
Add your resources to our landing page:

jewishrecon.org/networks/enlivening-shabbat-liturgy